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MORTALITY IN GREAT CITIES.

AUSTRIA—*Budapest*.—Month of October, 1904: Estimated population, 813,399. Total number of deaths, 1,157, including enteric fever, 15; measles, 3; scarlatina, 42; whooping cough, 2; diphtheria, 30; puerperal fever, 3; erysipelas, 9; and pulmonary tuberculosis, 194. Annual rate, 17.1 per mille. Month of November, 1904: Total number of deaths, 1,201, including enteric fever, 16; measles, 15; scarlatina, 33; diphtheria, 16; puerperal fever, 3; erysipelas, 7; and pulmonary tuberculosis, 205. Annual rate, 17.7 per mille.

BELGIUM—QUARANTINE REGULATIONS.

The following is the official notification of the Belgian Government, dated January 19, 1905, translated from the original French text:

The countries hereinafter given are at present officially declared in Belgium to be contaminated with plague, and are accordingly submitted to the conditions stipulated in Chapters II, III, and IV of the general sanitary regulations annexed to the International Sanitary Convention of Venice, 1897: The shores of the Bosphorus, the Sea of Marmora, and the Dardanelles; the Indian Empire; the Chinese Empire; the island of Formosa; Brisbane and Sidney, Australia; Egypt; Cape Colony; Johannesburg, Transvaal; Natal; the island of Mauritius; Pernambuco, Rio de Janeiro, and Bahia, Brazil; and Lima, Peru. The countries at present declared in Belgium to be contaminated with cholera, and consequently subject to provisions of Title VIII of the International Sanitary Convention of Desden, are Persia and the littoral of Palestine from the Egyptian frontier to Beirut.

PANAMA.

Summary of yellow fever cases and deaths on Isthmus of Panama.

The following is received from the chief sanitary officer of the Isthmian Canal Commission, under date of February 11, 1905:

Total number of cases on Isthmus of Panama, from July 1, 1904, to February 1, 1905, 31; deaths, 10.

Total number of cases from February 1, 1905, to February 11, 1905, 4; deaths, 2.

Total number of cases from February 1, 1905, to February 13, 1905, 5; deaths, 2.

Yellow fever situation and sanitary conditions in city of Panama.

Consul-General Gudger reports, February 2 and 14, as follows:

At the beginning of the month of January, 1905, we had 3 yellow fever cases in the Ancon hospital, one of which, Mrs. J. S., died on the 2d instant. Since that date we have had in the city of Panama 13 cases; in transit from the city, supposed to have been contracted on the Isthmus, 4 cases, and in Colon, 2. This is the official report up to January 29. On the 30th and 31st we had 2 more cases, not officially reported, making 21 in all. Of this number 6 were fatal and the others either recovered or are supposed to be convalescent.

The mortality in the city during the month named was 107 out of a population of 20,000. With the exception of those cases taken from the U. S. S. *Boston*, the cases were gathered from the various sections of the city and points within the Canal Zone across the Isthmus. One would naturally infer from this that the germs of the disease are generally disseminated and that yellow fever is almost, if not quite, an epidemic here. However, in consultation with Doctors Gorgas, Carter, and others, I am assured that such is not the case.

A great deal has been done to place the city in a condition of first-class sanitation. I have no report for January, but December work shows that the sanitary department fumigated 1,685,700 cubic feet of space inside of buildings, and that it employed about 60 persons in this special line.

Streets, back yards, and other places containing effete matter, have been cleaned. During the month 580 cart loads of refuse matter were removed. I think the work for January will make a much better showing than that of December.

The sanitary department is having repaired the 2 old water sprinklers belonging to the city and expects in a few days to be able to keep down the dust which is now almost unbearable.

It will be readily understood that it is with great difficulty that the city is placed and kept in good sanitary condition without an adequate water supply. We have now had nearly two months without rain and almost all the tanks are empty, so that the water must be purchased the carts or drawn from wells in the patios.

FEBRUARY 14, 1905.

The health conditions in the city of Panama during that part of the month ended last night, has been anything but encouraging.

There have been 5 new cases of yellow fever and 2 deaths, and it is reported that one other case is in a dying condition.

Among those who died were 2 Americans, employees of the Canal Commission. These cases like the others were gathered from various sections of the city.

It will be noted that during the month of January we had 22 cases of yellow fever, and, adding to this the 5 other cases, makes during the month of January and up to the present date 27 cases in all.

Regarding other conditions, I have to say that there were 110 deaths in the city during the past month. Out of this number 19 were from malarial fever, 15 from tuberculosis, and 10 from beriberi.

As was stated in my dispatch of some time ago, the mosquitoes are recognized as the means of infection, and if this be true they must be eradicated in order to stamp out the disease. It is almost if not impossible to do this in a city of 20,000 people, dependent upon wells and where water is kept in buckets, cans, barrels, etc., the favorite breeding place of mosquitoes.

Nothing save the introduction of the water supply in this city will in my judgment enable the sanitary officers to do their work effectively. I am sorry to say that the outlook at present is that we will not even have a temporary supply for this dry season. The piping for only about half the line has arrived. With these conditions I fear that matters will become worse instead of better.